

REPORT of the Meeting of the Playing Fields and
Cemetery Committee held 12th May 2016

Present: Cllr: Clive Parkinson (Chairman)

Alan Carman
Helen Harrison
Bob Griffin
Pam Shipp
Angela Symonds
Martin Trueman
Gail Whitehead

Jack Hainsworth (St. Mary's Church)
Sandra Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr: Lesley Tuck (nee Jones) – (Family Commitment)

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR ENSUING YEAR

It was proposed by Cllr Helen Harrison, seconded by Cllr Alan Carman and agreed that Cllr Martin Trueman be elected as vice chair for the ensuing year.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST REPORT

(a) St. Mary's Closed Churchyard - General Report

Jack Hainsworth reported that a trench had been dug for the re-wiring of the floodlights at the church. The deputy clerk informed members that there had been a problem with the electricity inside the church being tripped out and this was thought to be a fault in the floodlights. Council staff had dug a trench and the council's electrical contractor would be arriving the following week to re-wire etc. the outside lighting.

Mr Hainsworth informed members that there had been a problem with the mower and that it was now irreparable. Council's supplier had been contacted and a replacement mower found for the sum of £319. It was proposed by Cllr Helen Harrison, seconded by Cllr Bob Griffin and unanimously agreed that a replacement be purchased immediately.

He continued to inform committee that the stone mason had not returned to investigate the recently renovated war memorial that had cement coming away at one corner. The deputy clerk agreed to contact the company again and ask that they return fairly quickly.

Mr. Hainsworth was thanked for his attendance and he left the meeting.

(b) Skatepark - User Group and Proposed Improvements

There was nothing to report at this time

(c) Dog Control Measures – Mundy Playing Fields

The Deputy Clerk reported that all ‘Keep dogs on leads’ signs, along with new litter and dog bins had been installed.

A letter from the public asking how Council was to enforce the dogs on leads measures led to some discussion on the matter. It was agreed that there be a press release to highlight the measures and then the situation be monitored for a few months before any definite decision be made.

(d) Installation of Defibrillator at Mundy Playing Fields

An e-mail had been received requesting sponsorship wording etc to be displayed on the defibrillator before its installation. Members agreed to the wording of ‘Provided by Thornbury Town Council’

The chairman requested that training be sought similar to that when the defibrillator was installed in St Mary Centre.

(e) Request from Castle School Pupils for Various Works to Oakleaze Green

Cllr. Clive Parkinson reported that the consultation would be going ahead in the near future and stressed that no decision would be made until after the consultation had finished. It was agreed to inform all residents whose property was adjacent to the Green and a small area close to the vicinity.

The deputy clerk had received an e-mail from a resident of Elmdale who objected to the provision of play equipment on the Green and it was agreed to inform them that Council would be carrying out a consultation and make its decision once the results had been received.

Cllr Martin Trueman requested that he be included in the group who were looking at the project and members agreed to this.

(f) Thornbury Town Football Club – Upgrade Sport Facilities at the Mundy Playing Fields

Members were informed that the Football Club had put in a pre planning application for the proposed football stand on the Mundy Playing Fields.

(g) Thornbury Public Tennis Courts – Improvements

The opening of the public tennis courts had been successful and it was agreed that signage was required to inform members of the public which courts were the public courts and which belong to the Tennis Club.

(h) Resurfacing of Car Park

It was agreed to form a working party comprising of Cllrs. Alan Carman, Bob Griffin, Angela Symonds and Maggie Tyrrell to investigate other footpath works that would be necessary alongside the car park resurfacing and that quotes would be sought once Poulterbrook was in operation.

(i) Replacement of Safety Surfacing under Swings at Mundy playing Field

The safety surfacing under the tyre swings had been replaced and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

(j) Request for Upgrading Osprey Park Play Area

Following a request from a resident of the area for an upgrade to the play area members agreed to finalise the Oakleaze Green project and then review all Council’s play areas, with if necessary, a public consultation on the matter.

4. MATTERS IN PROGRESS

(a) RoSPA Report 2016

Copies of the report had been tabled for members' information. The deputy clerk advised that the items that had been deemed to be high and moderate risk had either been or were in the process of being rectified. The information was noted.

(b) Charges for Hire of Public Tennis Courts

This had been referred from Finance and Policy and it was agreed to request that Cllr Maggie Tyrrell who had raised the issue put forward any ideas she may have as to the collecting of payment for playing on Council's courts.

5. OPERATIONAL REPORT

Since the last meeting the Cemetery had accommodated three interments of cremated remains and four burials. The information was noted.

The deputy clerk informed members that during a recent storm the pavilion roof had leaked and proved to be in a bad state of repair so quotes for a new roof had been sought.

She continued to inform members that the disabled swings from Osprey Park and Streamleaze Green Play Areas had been removed as the chains had worn and due to a design fault could not be replaced leaving the swing useless. Having investigated replacements the deputy clerk had been unable to find a similar swing with a built in harness. All that she had found had detachable harnesses and it was thought that this would not be practicable on these out-sites. It was agreed that the deputy clerk investigate with other council's and that Cllr Helen Harrison talk to her contacts in Jigsaw.

Lastly it was reported that the football club had installed without permission a sign on Poulterbrook that had no reference to Thornbury Town Council or that it had been a partner in the provision of the new pitches. Members were unhappy with this situation and requested that the Club remove it immediately and that they submit to council a new sign with recognition to Thornbury Town Council.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Draft Income and Expenditure Accounts for 2015-16 were received and noted. A comparison of actual balances with 2015 revised projection showed a total of £82,598.84 available for re-allocation.

Agreed that the re-allocation be made as follows:-

Play Area Improvements	£20,000.00
Machine/Vehicle Repairs/Main.	£3,000.00
New Security Compound	£1,400.00
Cemetery Improvements	£1,000.00
Sign	£1,000.00
Heating and Lighting	£15,000.00
Resurfacing Car Park	£30,000.00
Litter Bins and Seats	£1,500.00
Superannuation	£3,000.00
Uncommitted	£6,698.84

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Fund raising Event on Mundy Playing Fields**

A fund raising event in aid of Cancer Research would be held on Saturday 23 July. This will be the fourth year that the event had been held but the first at Mundy Playing Fields and all necessary licences etc had been issued. It was agreed that the organiser be informed that they would be liable for any reinstatement works should they be necessary after the event.